

Small Group Discussion Questions Abbeville County

What is occurring in your community which addresses these responsibilities and areas for action?

- School is center of community.
- DHE, CTE, DHS
- GED program with childcare.
- Opportunity of after school program
- Service students in schools/community.
- Various scholarships through community churches, industry, etc.
- Business and industry advisory council
- Pre K program
- Business support
- Reading program
- Tutors/ mentors
- Inter- agency support
- Beckman mental health
- Police department DARE
- DSS/ DJJ
- County library
- Service learning k-12
- Shadow program
- Career program
- Career fair
- Character education (includes community leaders)
- Career Days
- EEDA programs
- First Steps

What are the critical barriers to fulfilling the commitment in your community?

- Close of industries / loss of jobs/ money for schools

- Transportation
- Enough qualified teachers
- Attitudes toward education.
- Parental involvement
- Lack of good news about schools.
- Money
- Facilities
- Apathy
- Disparity
- Offering more courses through technology.
- Keep educating our community members.
- Recruit more minority teachers.
- Parent involvement
- Student advocates
- Economic status
- Unaware of programs and services
- Lack of well-rounded/ structured after school programs.
- Exclusion of high achievers in after school programs
- Lack of art, music, dance, creative art-programs to inspire future careers.
- Lack of time
- Scarcity of resources
- Teacher burnout
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- Lack of resource gatekeeper.
- Concerns re: home schooling/private ed.
- Concerns re: data reports/ interp.
- Lack of volunteers
- Lack of communication/ concern re: all areas within the county i.e. – too much division

List the five most important things your community can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

- promote school in addition to athletics
- Offer talents to schools.
- Business mentors.
- Summer program to recognize deserving students
- Town meetings to inform the public.

- Student advocates in each school(student rights
- Resource gatekeeper
- Allocate additional resources
- Pay for performance of educators
- Reward educators for milestone improvements
- Work together-establish common goals for the larger community.
- Use word of mouth
- Include the faith community.
- Ask specifically for what you want.

List the five most important things you as an individual can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

- Promote school in addition to athletes.
- Communication
- Mentor
- Personal involvement
- Support tax initiatives
- Speak positively about improvements.
- Encourage community involvement in schools.
- Fund raisers-Golf tournaments, etc.
- Encourage employers to financially schools.